

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 084395

FOLLOWING TELEGRAM SENT AMEMBASSY ANKARA, USMISSION NATO
DTG 032340 Z MAY 73 FROM SECSTATE:

QUOTE: STATE 084395

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, PFOR, TU

SUBJ: DEP ASST SECY DAVIES DISCUSSES SECURITY ASSISTANCE
LEVELS WITH TURK AMB ESENBEL

1. DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY DAVIES CALLED IN AMBASSADOR
ESENBEL MAY 3 TO EXPLAIN ADMINISTRATION' S REQUEST TO THE
CONGRESS FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE FOR TURKEY IN FY 74 AND
PROVIDED FOLLOWING FIGURES:

GRANT MAP \$98,001,000
(INCLUDING \$12,500,000 FOR SUPPLY OPERATIONS)

TRAINING 2,499,000

FMS CREDIT 75,000,000

TOTAL RESOURCE TRANSFERS \$175,500,000

2. DAVIES THEN MADE FOLLOWING POINTS:

A. IN MAKING WORLDWIDE ALLOCATIONS THE ADMINISTRATION
TOOK INTO ACCOUNT PRESIDENT NIXON' S \$40 MILLION UNDER-
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TAKING TO PM ERIM BUT SITUATION IN CONGRESS SEVERELY LIMITED AMOUNT OF MONEY IT ABLE TO REQUEST.

B. THESE FIGURES, PARTICULARLY WITH INCLUSION \$75 MILLION IN FMS CREDIT, STILL REPRESENT A SUBSTANTIAL PROGRAM.

C. PROGRAM FOR UTILIZATION OF EXCESS DEFENSE ARTICLES AND SHIP TRANSFER PROGRAM WILL ADD VERY SUBSTANTIALLY TO THE PROGRAM DESCRIBED ABOVE, THOUGH WE UNABLE PREDICT AMOUNTS AS THAT WILL DEPEND UPON THE AVAILABILITY OF MATERIEL.

3. AMBASSADOR ESENBEL SAID THAT HE UNDERSTOOD IT HAD BEEN IMPOSSIBLE FOR ADMINISTRATION TO REQUEST A SPECIFIC \$40 MILLION AMOUNT FOR TURKEY TO MAKE UP THE FY 72 SHORTFALL, BUT HE HAD HOPED THERE WOULD BE SOMETHING EXTRA IN THE ADMINISTRATION'S REQUEST FOR TURKEY WHICH WOULD REFLECT THE ADMINISTRATION'S INTENT TO REGAIN THE \$40 MILLION. ESENBEL NOTED THAT FY 74 PROGRAM ABOUT SAME SIZE AS ADMINISTRATION REQUEST FOR LAST TWO YEARS WHICH HAD BEEN SEVERELY CUT BY CONGRESS AND THERE NO GUARANTEE THIS WOULD NOT HAPPEN AGAIN.

4. DAVIES REITERATED THAT \$40 MILLION SHORTFALL HAD BEEN TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN ARRIVING AT FIGURE FOR FY 74 BUT WORLDWIDE DEMANDS LIMITED WHAT COULD BE REQUESTED FOR TURKEY. HE AGREED THAT THERE NO GUARANTEE CONGRESS WOULD NOT AGAIN SEVERELY CUT BACK ADMINISTRATION REQUEST BUT NOTED THAT ON BASIS HIS OWN CONTACTS IN PAST FEW WEEKS WITH A NUMBER OF SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN COVERING BROAD POLITICAL SPECTRUM HE HAD FOUND A GENUINE UNDERSTANDING OF THE NEED FOR THE SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. HE REASONABLY HOPEFUL THEREFORE THAT CONGRESS WOULD ACT FAVORABLY ON ADMINISTRATION REQUEST.

5. ESENBEL SAID THAT WHEN CONGRESS CUTS ADMINISTRATION REQUEST FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE THEY DO IT ACROSS THE BOARD, LEAVING ADMINISTRATION WITH DISCRETION AS TO HOW REDUCED PIE TO BE DIVIDED. HE QUESTIONED WHY TURKEY PROGRAM SHOULD BE CUT PROPORTIONATELY AND SAID THAT TURKEY MILITARY BECOMING SKEPTICAL ABOUT ADMINISTRATION INTENTIONS SINCE, DESPITE LEVEL OF ADMINISTRATION REQUEST, TURKEY ENDS UP GETTING SUBSTANTIALLY LESS.

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6. DAVIES REITERATED HIGH LEVEL OF USG INTEREST IN TURKEY AND ASSURED ESENBEL THAT TURKEY GIVEN HIGH PRIORITY IN FINAL ALLOCATION OF FUNDS. ROGERS UNQUOTE RUSH

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